C S
71
C354
1909

CASTOR FAMILY

HOLMESBURG BRANCH

PRINTED FROM THE RECORDS

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES

BY

RICHARD ALLEN MARTIN
14TH ON THE CASTOR CHART

AVAILABLE ON MICROFILM
DO NOT REBIND

Class CS71
Book .C354
1909

CASTOR FAMILY

HOLMESBURG BRANCH

PRINTED FROM THE RECORDS

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES

BY

RICHARD ALLEN MARTIN
14TH ON THE CASTOR CHART

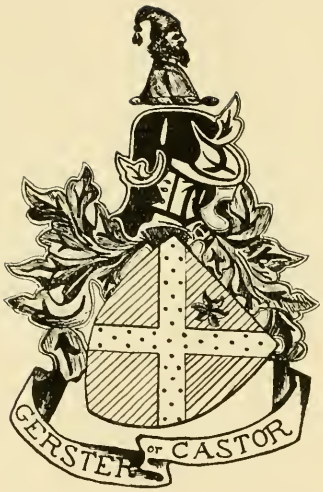
—1909—
MARTIN & ALLARDYCE
FRIES' BUILDING, FRANKFORD, PA.

EDITION 100 COPIES

THIS IS NO. 43

14903

18


GERSTER
OF
CASTOR

Gerster or Castor Arms.

GERSTER, OF BASLE, Switzerland, as described in a letter to Richard Allen Martin, (14) from Dr. John Gerster, of Basle, written September 1906.

Arms: Gules a saltire or. in chief an estoile of the last.

Crest: A man's bust and head clothed gules in a pointed cap or., face and hair proper.

In Rietstrap's "*Armorial General*" the Arms are described as follows :

Arms: De gu a deux batons potences passes en saut la potence en haut acc. en chef d' un etoile entre les batons le tovt d' or.

Crest: Un buste d'homme, hab. de gu; coiffe d' un bonnet point du me-me, d' or.

ife

1 Robert Burrage

2 Richard Burrage

3 Thomas Burrage

4 John Burrage

5 William Burrage

1 John

6 John Burrage

2 John Geor

7 William Burrage

3 Georg

8 Sergt. John Burrage

4 Matthia

9 Thomas Burrage

5 Willia

10 Hannah Burrage

eth Mills

8 Morton Castor 9 hard Allen Martin

Castor Family

HOLMESBURG BRANCH

Ancestors and Descendants of George Matthias Castor and Mary Elizabeth Mills, his wife

1 John Gerster
2 John George Castor
3 George Castor
4 Matthias Castor
5 William Castor

1 Joseph Northrup
2 Joseph Northrup
3 James Northrup
4 Nathan Northrup
5 David W. Northrup
6 Elizabeth Northrup

6 George Matthias Castor

1 Adam Mills
2 George Mills
3 Joseph Mills

1 Robert Burrage
2 Richard Burrage
3 Thomas Burrage
4 John Burrage
5 William Burrage
6 John Burrage
7 William Burrage
8 Sergt. John Burrage
9 Thomas Burrage
10 Hannah Burrage

4 Mary Elizabeth Mills

1 Hon. George A. Castor
m
5 Katharine Duffy

8 Morton Castor
9 Katharine
10 George Matthias
11 Estelle
m
17 George Rommell
20 Natalie Rommell

2 Mary Castor
m
6 Lemuel Ball

12 Nettie Castor Ball
m
18 Lemuel Oldham

3 Nellie Mills Castor
m
7 Dr. Richard Allen Martin

13 George Castor Martin
m
19 Mildred Comegys
21 Richard Allen Allardyce Martin

4 Morton Castor

14 Richard Allen Martin

Ancestry of George M. Castor

1. **John Gerster,** b. City of Basle, Switzerland.

2. **John George Castor,** b. March 5, 1710, in Basle; m. in Switzerland, Eve ———; d. Oxford township, Penna. Dec. 29, 1797. Came to America 1737 in the ship "Princess Augusta," Samuel Merchant, Master, and is down on the ship's list as Hans George Gerster. On the old Church records his name is written John George Castor. He purchased, March 10, 1762, 202 acres in the Oxford Township, on which property he lived until his death. In the deed he is styled as "of Germantown." He and his wife are buried in the Presbyterian church yard in Frankford.

3. **George Castor,** b. Dec. 14th, 1736, in Germantown; m. Margaret Satterlee; d. May 25, 1811, Oxford township. Int. Presbyterian church yard, Frankford.

4. **Matthias Castor,** b. Oct. 14, 1766, Oxford Township; m. Rebecca Johnson, April 8, 1792; d.———.
Matthias served in Continental Army at Yorktown 1783. His oldest son Samuel was a General in the Penna, Militia. (Samuel, b. 1778, d. 1855.) Both Matthias and Samuel are in the Presbyterian church yard with their forefathers.

5. **William Castor,** b. May 26, 1797, Oxford Township; m. March 26, 1821, Elizabeth Northrup; d.———.
Moved to Holmesburg, where he became the ancestor of the Castor Family of that town.

6. **George Matthias Castor,** b. Dec. 25, 1830, in Holmesburg; m. July 13, 1854, Mary Elizabeth Mills; d. May 16, 1880, Holmesburg; Int. Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Northrup.

1. **Joseph Northup,** b. in England; m. Mary Norton in Milford, Conn.; d. Sept 11, 1669 in Milford. Joseph came to America in 1637 and settled in Milford, 1639.

2. **Joseph Northrup,** b. Aug. 9, 1649 in Milford; d. May 1700; Freeman May 12, 1670.

3. **James Northrup,** bap. Jan. 1693 in Milford; m. Hannah Hyne. Bought lands in Ridgefield Conn., 1714, 1715, 1721 and 1727.

4. **Nathan Northrup,** b. May 30, 1721 in Ridgefield, Conn.; m. 1st Eunice ———; m. 2nd Lydia Mills.

5. **David W. Northrup,** bap. July 29, 1798, in Ridgefield.

6. **Elizabeth Northrup,** b. May 29, 1798, in Ridgefield; m. William Castor; d. April 22, 1861.

Ancestry of Mary E. Mills.

1. **Adam Mills.**

2. **George Mills,** b. England; m. Elizabeth Lees. Came to America about the year 1827 and settled near Holmesburg, Pa.

3. **Joseph Mills,** b. 1816 in England; m. Hannah Burrage 1837; d. 1879 Holmesburg, Pa.; Int. North Cedar Hill Cemetery.

4. **Mary Elizabeth Mills,** b. Feb 19, 1838. Holmesburg; m. George M. Castor; d. Mar. 17, 1891, Stonyhurst, Holmesburg, Pa.

Burrage.

1. **Robert Burrage,** b. Seething, Norfolk, Eng. Circa 1490; d. 1559, Seething.

2. **Richard Burrage,** b. Seething.

3. **Thomas Burrage,** b. Feb. 28, 1581, Norton Subcourse; m. Aug. 19, 1606, Frances Dey; d. Mar. 2, 1632.

4. **John Burrage,** b. Apr. 10, 1616, Norton Subcourse; m. Joanna Stowers; d. Oct. 19, 1685, Charlestown, Mass. Settled in Charlestown, Mass., 1632.

5. **William Burrage,** b. June 10, 1657, in Boston; m. Sarah ———? d. 1720, in Boston.

6. **John Burrage,** b. Feb. 11, 1693, Charlestown; m. Oct. 9, 1718, Lydia Ward, (See Ward Gen.); d. Jan. 24, 1765, Newton, Mass.

7. **William Burrage,** b. Newton, Mass.; m. Dec. 13, 1744, Hannah Osland; d. Oct. 13, 1763.

8. **John Burrage,** b. Aug. 29, 1755; m. May 10, 1781, Lois Barthrick; d. July 2, 1822.

John Burrage was styled "of Lunenburg and Concord." Enlisted in Fourth Foot Company, April 17, 1775, fought at both the battles of Concord and Lexington. The Decendants of John Burrage are entitled to membership in either the Sons or Daughters of the Revolution.

9. Thomas Burrage, b. April 22, 1782; d. Oct. 13, 18[illegible]0.

10. Hannah Burrage, b. June 11, 1818; m. Joseph Mills; d. 1889; Int. North Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Decendants of George M. Castor and Mary E. Mills.

1. **Hon. George A. Castor,** b. Aug. 3, 1856, Holmesburg; m. Katharine Duffy, d. Nov. 16, 1902, Holmesburg; Int. Episcopal church yard, in Holmesburg.

2. **Mary Castor,** b. May 3, 1858, Holmesburg; m. May 3. 1878, Lemuel Ball; d. Nov. 16, 1902, Wissinoming; Int. North Cedar Hill Cemetery.

3. **Nellie Mills Castor,** b. April 3, 1864, Holmesburg; m. 1st Dec. 6, 1883, Dr. Richard Allen Martin, a Decendant of the Martins of Ballinahinch, Co. Down, Ireland, who came to America from Bolton-C-Moors, Lancashire. England in 1827. (See Martin chart.) m. 2nd Wm. H. Allardyce of Galveston, Texas.

4. **Morton Castor,** b. Aug. 3, 1866, Holmesburg; d. Aug. 3, Holmesburg 1869; Int. Cedar Hill Cemetery.

8. **Morton Castor,** b. April 30, 1876, Holmesburg.

9. **Katharine Castor,** b. Feb. 8, 1878, Holmesburg.

10. **George Matthias Castor,** b. 1879, Holmesburg; d. June 9, 1894, Holmesburg; Int. North Cedar Hill Cemetery.

11. **Estelle Castor,** b. November 1889, Holmesburg; m. George Rommell; living in Germantown.

12. **Nellie Castor Ball,** b. May 16. 1878, Tacony, Pa.; m. May 31, 1907, Samuel Oldham; living in Wissinoming, Pa.

13. **George Castor Martin,** b. March 30, 1885, New York City; m. Sept. 22, 1906, Asbury Park, New Jersery, Mildred Comegys of the Maryland family of that name. Both members of the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution respectively. Vice-Commodore U. S. V. L. S. C.

14. **Richard Allen Martin,** b. Oct. 14 1886, New York City; d. Dec. 20. 1908, Jacksonville, Fla. Interment North Cedar Hill Cemetery. Richard Allen Martin was a member of the Sons of the Revolution Monmouth County Historical Society; Ex Libris Society of London, Frankford Historical Society, and others.

20 **Natalie Rommel,** b. 1909, Germantown.

21. **Richard Allen Allardyce Martin,** b. July 15, 1907, Asbury Park, N. J.

John Palkner, 19 years of age, of 3139 Almond street, a machinist at Foerderer's, was badly scalded by boiling water on Saturday.

F. S. Northup, aged 19 years, of 1622 Cherry street, lacerated chin, on Saturday.

Paul McSheffery, 24 years of age, of 2015 Orthodox street, contusion of face and lower jaw. Taken to hospital in patrol wagon on Saturday.

Mary Roach, aged 7 years, of Orthodox street and Asylum road, received a fracture of the right arm on Sunday and was taken to the Frankford Hospital.

George Hanlon, 23 years of age, of 5724 Leonard street, bitten by dog, on Sunday.

Arthur Foley, 34 years of age, of 1617 Worrell street, punctured wound of hand, on Monday.

J. Shensky, 23 years of age, of 310 Monroe street, punctured wound of right foot.

E. Austin, 50 years of age, of 4561 Ditman street, laceration of scalp, on Monday.

Raymond Burrock, age 20 years, residing at 3275 Milller street, laceration of finger of left hand.

Vernon Lyons, residing 4628 Salmon street, contusion of middle and index fingers of left hand.

Willard Moore, age 4 years, residing at 1628 Dyre street, contusions of scalp.

Union Fraternal Committee

The Union Committee of Fraternal Organizations held another stated meeting on Monday evening when the standing committees gave lengthy reports of what was to be done on Memorial Day if weather was favorable.

Nomination for officers were made, the election to be held on the first meeting in June.

The committee will meet again on Saturday evening, when the balance of the badges will be given out. The members of the Finance Committee are expected to be present to make a final settlement.

From
y 28th, 1909

From *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 2, 1909

HOLE IN THE GROUND TELLS SECRET OF CASTOR WEALTH

to Family

Where the Pennypack Creek crosses the Bristol pike, at Holmesburg, on the steep hill slope at the left of the pike the Castor mansion stands alone, while just across the roadway is a "hole in the ground," the secret of the Castor wealth.

Crowds to Save Motormen

MANY INJURED DURING STRUGGLE

Trolley accidents were responsible for two riots that occurred within an hour of one another in the southern section of the city last night, the crew of a car being attacked at Tenth and Fitzwater streets after a young cyclist had been badly maimed there, while only police interference saved the motorman and

The Old Castor Mansion at Wissinoming.

When it was recently announced that Tacony Farm, the residence of Thomas C. Foster, at Wissinoming, had been sold and would shortly be pulled down to give place to a large factory, general regret was expressed among the residents of Tacony and Bridesburg, says the Philadelphia Record. For nearly two centuries this has been one of the show places among the numerous beautiful river mansions overlooking the Delaware in this section. Not only for the quaint architecture of the fine old homestead, but for the beauty of its approach, both by land and water, has the historic Castor mansion been famous for many generations. It stands closer to the river bank than the majority of the famous old mansions that once lined the water front, with a velvety lawn and beautiful old trees reaching down to the water. But the entrance from the land is one of the special attractions of the estate, as it leads through a long, shady, tree-bordered avenue, with clumps of hardy shrubbery and broad sweeps of velvety lawns reaching far away on either side of the driveway.

Fortunately, the fulfillment of the prophecies of destruction has been indefinitely postponed for this quaint and beautiful old country seat. While the large factory has sprung up on the wide-reaching acres of the historic farm its building has not necessitated the obliterating of the treasured landmark, but, instead, has given it a new lease of life, for N. C. Brodhead, the owner of the factory, established on the river front, has carefully preserved the Tacony Farm mansion and all its quaint and interesting landmarks for his home. Mrs. Brodhead, who is not only an enthusiastic historian, has made the most of all the charms of ancient architectural beauty, and is also well versed in the interesting legends and traditions which throng the place.

The early Swedes were the first to own the property, and it was a famous gathering place for the Swedish settlers who had crossed the river to make their settlement of the wide-reaching Pennsylvania farm lands, extending in splendid fertility down to the water front without the usual intervening marsh lands. Here, on the slope of the Tacony Farm, the Swedes built the little low part of the present mansion. Built it for special safety, after their quaint architecture of the day, with the first floor largely underground, and the windows being level with the soil. This rambling two-story structure, substantially built of stone and plaster, was considered a very pretentious dwelling when erected, over two centuries ago, and it was the special pride of the early Swedish settlers.

But even previous to the two centuries or more that the property has been a famous homestead history was being made for the ancient farm near the Wissinoming Creek, with its Indian name, for judging from the indications of more recent years, this farm doubtless contained the home of an Indian chieftain and his tribe, or at least it must have been an Indian camping ground or village, for Indian relics have been unearthed in every portion of the farm. For more than a century and a quarter the Castor family owned the estate, and through five generations of the Castors the place has been socially prominent. Mr. Brodhead purchased the estate of Thomas C. Foster, whose mother was a Castor. As it stands to-day the house is interesting not only on account of its age and historic traditions, but also as a striking specimen of old French architecture. When the house was purchased by the original George Castor, the additions he made were modeled after the French country houses of the eighteenth century. The ceilings were high, and the rooms spacious and imposing, while a veranda overlooked the river. It is also recorded that he laid out a handsome garden, which for its day was considered one of the most beautiful specimens of landscape gardening in all this section or within the suburbs of the Quaker City.

HOLE IN THE GROUND TELLS SECRET OF CASTOR WEALTH

STONYHURST - THE CASTOR ESTATE

FAMOUS GRANITE QUARRY, NOW A "HOLE IN THE GROUND"

Stately Mansion Stands Near Prolific Granite Quarry, Which Brought Fortune to Family

Where the Pennypack Creek crosses the Bristol pike, at Holmesburg, on the steep hill slope at the left of the pike the Castor mansion stands alone, while just across the roadway is a "hole in the ground," the secret of the Castor wealth. It was here that the finest granite building stone of Pennsylvania was discovered a few years ago, and the hard granite being included within the possession of George A. Castor, not only yielded building stone of a superior quality, but the quarry has proven of unusual dimensions.

Those visiting the spot invariably have the mansion pointed out to them first and are then taken across the roadway to the largest quarry in this section of the State.

This stone mansion is well named Stonyhurst. It commands a view of Holmesburg, while the Pennypack and the curved arches of the old bridge make an attractive scene. Gray stone and shingles were the materials used in the construction of the mansion.

The interior is specially beautiful. The hall is 16 feet wide and 115 feet deep. This hall, with its galleries and broad staircase, is like that of a castle. Paneled oak with carvings adorns the sides and ceiling, and bay windows give a view of the lawn and drive.

Large rooms en suite open from the hall. The drawing room is of the style of Louis XV, with white and gold decorations. One of the front rooms is paneled in blue satin and is in the style of Marie Antoinette, and contains a bedstead of this type of art, with slender carved posts supporting a canopy, showing the centre in blue satin rays.

There are eighteen bedrooms, and the whole architectural plan is on the same spacious dimensions. With the estate surrounding, it is one of the show places of Holmesburg.

The Castor homestead is a well-known landmark, but it was not until George A. Castor discovered the quarry of hard granite on the hill overlooking the Pennypack, and bought in all the surrounding land to control the output of the quarry, that the residents of Holmesburg first realized the amount of hidden treasure just beneath the surface of the soil.

From *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 2, 1909

AVAILABLE ON MICROFILM
DO NOT REBIND

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 021 392 013 3